



Speaking God's Word - Part 3

"Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: 'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth'" (Jeremiah 1:9 NKJ).

In Parts 1 and 2 about Speaking God's Word we discussed meeting the requirements of faith, perseverance and obedience in order to be effective. We also looked at the power of God's Word to fulfill His purpose for which He sends it. In this final part, I want to discuss some ways we can speak His Word.

First, we should speak God's Word purposefully and systematically. This means we need a plan. Many of us know how we struggle to follow an exercise routine or a consistently healthy diet. In the case of any good habit we want to develop, we often will find it difficult to start and to maintain. Momentum and enthusiasm can wane after a while. We need God's help because our adversary Satan will actively oppose us. However, if we ask God to help us, He will.

When we speak God's Word, we are taking up the sword of the Holy Spirit that is effective against Satan's work and effective in saving the lost, changing us, changing our world, building up others and so on. Satan, however, is counting on our human weaknesses, discouragement and lack of knowledge to work in his favor. Prayer will bring God's help, and with God all things are possible. Yet God will not do our part for us. We pray and we speak. We do not quit. We start with baby steps, and if we fall down we get up and start again. Like any discipline, we will grow in it as we practice it. Remember we will reap if we faint not. Do not lose heart. Would God fail to help any of His children who call to Him and seek Him as they speak His Word in His Name? No!

To be purposeful means we know where we are headed. We should get God's direction and assignment; however, if you receive no clear direction at first, I suggest focusing your speaking

in six areas. These areas are Personal, Family, Church, Community, Nation and World.

For the first area, Personal, you may easily be able to list things you would like to see changed in yourself. This list might include anger, fear, doubt, unbelief, little faith, no trust, no hope, need love, no joy, little joy, need patience, no peace, hatred, bitterness, can't serve with joy, self-will, spiritual bondage, infirmity, sickness, greed, no strength, little strength, bad habits, insecurity, discouragement, rejection, scattered thinking, depression, negative thinking or self-centeredness. The list of human problems can be almost endless. God will be faithful to illuminate an area (or areas) for you to begin with if you will ask Him. I suggest starting with one or two.

As you start, you will need a few Scriptures that focus on the problem you want to see changed. You can ask God to bring pertinent verses to your mind and you can note related verses as you read Scripture. If you know a few words of a verse, you can use a concordance or an on-line search engine to try to find particular verses. Several ministries that I am familiar with have compiled Scripture lists and have published books on praying or speaking God's Word. These include Derek Prince Ministries, Beth Moore and Joyce Meyer. I have compiled lists on disk and also have written individual Scriptures on cards that I carry with me and use at home. Lists others have compiled can be a good starting point as we personalize our approach and follow God's leading.

I think you know this already, but it is important to be on target with the Scriptures we select. If we are targeting a problem with anger, we would not say "Jesus wept" or "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." A physician who has become an ear, nose and throat

specialist has not done most of his study on the foot. As Joyce Meyer has said, “We do not use a bandage for a headache and we don’t put an aspirin on a cut.” Likewise, we find applicable Scripture for the problem or area we are addressing.

I recommend starting with Scriptures that focus on faith and confidence in God, in His Word and in His love for you. I believe these areas are foundational for winning the battle in all other areas. In fact, as you expand your Scripture proclamation list for specific issues in your life, you might consider making the Scriptures on faith and confidence in God and trust in God daily staples on your spiritual menu.

It will be important to develop your Scripture proclamation lists in the areas of Family, Community, Church, Nation and World. The commands and promises of God throughout His Word are some of the most powerful passages we can include in our proclamation repertoire. Also, God has made many declarations and proclamations in His Word that will be effective today as we speak them strategically.

God can and will guide us in what parts of His Word to speak at certain times, especially if we ask Him to. Almost every morning He gives me a “theme” verse for my day. This is because I am paying attention and desire that He do that. He will do that for anyone who seeks Him. I will proclaim several Scriptures during my regular time I have set apart for that, but the one He has spoken I will speak numerous times throughout the day. I will repeat it slowly and meditatively. I will also add that verse to one of my lists if I haven’t already.

One of my many favorite passages is Isaiah 54:11-15. I love the passage as a whole, and I have also placed its individual verses on my Scripture lists. God says:

“O you afflicted one, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay your stones with colorful gems and lay your foundations with sapphires.”

“I will make your pinnacles of rubies, your gates of crystal, and all your walls of precious stones.

“All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.

“In righteousness you shall be established; you shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you.

“Indeed they shall surely assemble, but not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake.”

It is important to make regular proclamations for our church, community, nation and world. God wants our world view to be larger than ourselves and our families. He also wants us to help bring His will into manifestation in the world. We can do this by proclaiming God’s Word. In one part of the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus instructed us to say, “Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven.” When I get to that part, I speak it for myself, my family, my city/county, my nation and the world. Ask God if He wants you to proclaim His Word for particular nations. “This honor have all His saints.” (See Psalm 149:5-9.)

One last word—include a category of blessing and praising God. This also is foundational to our victory over Satan and to changing our lives and our world.

May God bless you and help you as you speak His Word. May you experience and see the life-changing power of God’s Word more and more in your life and in your world. SH

GOD’S WORD FOR TODAY

Teaching Letter 29

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